

# REPUBLICANS GET AN "F" FOR EDUCATION

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, we all get the opportunities as Members of Congress to get a little booklet called: How Our Laws Are Made. My suggestion is to my Republican colleagues that they save their copies and reread this document because it says the fact that a proposal cannot become law without consideration and approval by both Houses of Congress is an outstanding virtue of our legislative system.

The fact of the matter is that last January the President laid out an education proposal. He said: Let us reduce class sizes, let us increase the number of teachers, let us modernize our schools for our children, let us give them every single opportunity that they need in order that they might succeed in a very, very competitive world.

My suggestion to my colleagues on the other side of the aisle is to stop holding up this budget process over the funding of America's public schools.

The very fact of the matter is they get an F for education.

Let us focus our time and our attention in the remaining days that we have here to reduce class size, modernize our schools, increase the numbers of teachers in our classrooms for the benefit of our children.

# REPUBLICANS WANT TO SHRINK THE SIZE OF GOVERNMENT, DEMOCRATS WANT TO EXPAND IT

(Mr. MILLER of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, the Republicans want to move in one direction, the Democrats in another. This year, like every year on almost every single spending bill, the division is quite clear. Republicans want to cut back on the size of government, the Democrats want to expand it. We have different visions, different ideas about what government should do, what it can do and how much of government spending is an outrageous waste of the taxpayers' money.

But our differences are no excuse for a government shutdown, and I am very distressed to hear persistent rumors that many in the White House are urging the President to provoke a confrontation and a shutdown of the government. They want to shut down the government and then try and blame it want on the Republicans.

This is an interesting idea, interesting way indeed to combat public cynicism towards the government. I urge the President to reject the advice of his more liberal advisers and continue to work with Republicans towards an honorable compromise on the remaining spending bill.

Do not shut down the government, Mr. President.

# WE SHOULD BE PREPARING OUR SCHOOLS FOR THE NEXT CENTURY

(Mr. MENENDEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, we do not want to shut the government down, we want to keep America's schools open, and we want to make sure that America's schools can prosper well into the next century.

Now this Congress has had all of this year with a balanced budget and a Federal surplus to get a budget together. It has not. So then it declares martial law on the House so that it can bring up anything at any time that it wants. Well, if that is their will, then let us bring up something that is meaningful for this country, and that is our children, 100,000 school teachers with federal assistance to help reduce class size so teachers can teach at the greatest ability of those children's levels. In terms of instead of having class sizes of 30 or more, let us reduce it to a size that can make a real meaningful difference for children, of modernizing schools, schools that are from the turn of the century and now we are ready to turn a new century. We should be able to modernize them as well.

That is what Democrats are fighting about, that is why we have not yet come to an agreement. It is not about shutting the government down, it is about keeping our schools open and prepared for the next century. That is what we should be about; that is what we should be getting on to this floor.

# OUR CHILDREN MUST GET THE BEST EDUCATION IN THE WORLD

(Ms. LOFGREN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, in 1953, as sort of the cutting edge of the baby boomers, I started kindergarten, and as the children of the World War II heroes entered school, what happened? All over the country they built enough schools and they made sure there were enough textbooks so that my generation could have a great education and have a future.

Turn the clock forward to 1998, and we have the biggest group of kindergartners that we have had since the baby boomers, and let us contrast what the grown ups are doing this time. We have children going to school in trailers, we have children going to school in utility closets. I would hope, and we spent so much time in this Congress on scandal and investigation and the like that, please, let us make sure that before we go home we do something that will really matter for the future of this country, that we put our children first, and we put our money where our

mouth is, that we understand that the most important thing for the future of our country is that our children get the best education in the world.

# ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SHIMKUS). Pursuant to the provisions of clause 5 of rule I, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on each motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or which the vote is objected to under clause 4 of rule XV.

Such rollcall votes, if postponed, will be taken after debate has concluded on all motions to suspend the rules.

# NATIONAL PARKS OMNIBUS MANAGEMENT ACT OF 1998

Mr. HANSEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 1693) to provide for improved management and increased accountability for certain National Park Service programs, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 1693

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

## SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "National Parks Omnibus Management Act of 1998".

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. Definition.

## TITLE I—NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CAREER DEVELOPMENT, TRAINING, AND MANAGEMENT

Sec. 101. Protection, interpretation, and research in the National Park System.

Sec. 102. National Park Service employee training.

Sec. 103. Management development and training.

Sec. 104. Park budgets and accountability.

## TITLE II—NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM RESOURCE INVENTORY AND MANAGEMENT

Sec. 201. Purposes.

Sec. 202. Research mandate.

Sec. 203. Cooperative agreements.

Sec. 204. Inventory and monitoring program.

Sec. 205. Availability for scientific study.

Sec. 206. Integration of study results into management decisions.

Sec. 207. Confidentiality of information.

## TITLE III—STUDY REGARDING ADDITION OF NEW NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM AREAS

Sec. 301. Short title.

Sec. 302. Purpose.

Sec. 303. Study of addition of new National Park System areas.

## TITLE IV—NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CONCESSIONS MANAGEMENT

Sec. 401. Short title.

Sec. 402. Congressional findings and statement of policy.

Sec. 403. Award of concessions contracts.

Sec. 404. Term of concessions contracts.